

Torrance Herald

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SIX HURT IN HOLIDAY TRAFFIC

Two Accidents Mar Vacations

Six persons were injured in two accidents in the Torrance area over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Three persons were taken to Harbor General Hospital following an accident at Hawthorne Ave. and 190th St. Thursday.

Drivers in the three-car collision were Lillian June DeFrias, 33, of 5024 Range Horse Lane, Rolling Hills; Robert Ephram Acra, 68, of 60 Portuguese Bend Rd., Rolling Hills; and Nick Aguilar Garcia, 23, of Redondo Beach.

Injured were Bruce Nelson, 31, of Redondo Beach, a passenger in the Aguilar car; Audrea, 63; and Garcia.

A 21-year-old Torrance man and two sailors were injured when the car the localite was driving north on Pacific Ave., ran off the road near Front St. in San Pedro and struck a power pole.

Driver Tony P. Martinez Jr., 2313 Arlington Ave., was treated for minor injuries and booked on suspicion of drunk driving, police said.

George Barry and James Hicks, the two sailors, were treated at San Pedro Receiving Hospital.

Residents of Victor Tract Form Group

Residents of the Victor Tract in West Torrance met this week in the Torrance City Hall Council Chambers to organize a Victor Tract Property Owners Assn. They elected Charles Deck, chairman, and a board of governors as the directing group of the organization.

The Board of Governors consists of: Mr. and Mrs. Herb Boxer, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Langley, Mr. and Mrs. Odell Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Schnorr, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vyleta, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smith, Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Russel Monteith, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchel Kevorkian, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Deck.

Zoning Explained
Zoning and Planning Commission Chairman Bert Lynn spoke to the group regarding zoning in the area following the election and answered questions.

Mayor Albert Isen addressed the group and explained the Torrance city government set-up and the all-over tax structure from federal down, to cities.

A committee headed by Herb Boxer reported on visits to the school board and the extension of bus routes to take in children closer to home thus eliminating some traffic hazards. Planning Commission and city council meetings which were attended by some members were also reported on to the association which decided to send invitations to all registered voters in the tract to join the assn.

No Council Meeting
With members of the city council attending a meeting in San Francisco, there will be no council meeting this week. The next meeting will be Dec. 10.

Legal Action Pending for 81-Unit Motel

Torrance city councilmen have been served with copies of pending legal action concerning a proposed 81-unit motel in Hollywood Riviera.

Local officials have been ordered to show cause why transcripts of city council proceedings on rezoning of bluff property should not be reviewed by Superior Court.

Franklin W. Peck, attorney for Don Ja Ran Construction Co. and Peerless Building Corp., co-owners of the 20-acre site, said the court session is set for Dec. 13 in Dept. 34, at 9:30 a.m.

Purpose of the court appearance by the two building firms is to void recent action by Torrance city councilmen in rezoning the bluff land from R-4 to R-1.

BALLOTS IN MAIL FOR CHAMBER BOARD

Election of four new directors for the Chamber of Commerce is underway in a mail ballot now being conducted, it was reported here yesterday by President A. E. Thompson. Sixteen men have been nominated for the four positions, and ballots must be marked and back in the mail no later than Dec. 10.

Hull Explodes At Tax Report

Torrance city officials were accused this week of "sticking their nose in school district business."

The vitriolic attack came from Dr. J. H. Hull, Torrance School District superintendent, following last week's article in the Torrance HERALD which outlined how the local taxpayer's dollar was distributed.

In published reports in at least two newspapers, the educator sniped at The HERALD's story which declared school taxes took \$3.44 of the total \$7.27 tax rate.

Challenges Figure
Dr. Hull declared the school's only received \$2.87. The difference of \$.57 went to support El Camino College.

The original story considered both Torrance Unified School District and El Camino as schools.

Quoted by one publication as saying "I'll keep my nose out of city business and I don't appreciate their sticking their nose into ours," Dr. Hull went on to accuse city officials of making the Torrance Unified School District "look like spendthrifts."

Declaring the district spends \$297 per student each year, as compared with \$351 average in

the county, the educator was quoted as saying:

Economy Cited
"We give each student the best education he can get and we are the most economical

The HERALD's answer to Hull's charges is printed today on Page 4.

district in the county. What more can anyone ask?"

The educator said the district is supported solely through property taxes, while the city had other sources of income such as parking meters, gasoline taxes, license fees, airport income and parking and traffic fines.

Dr. Hull, in stating the district was entirely supported by property taxes, neglected to mention federal and state monies paid to the district, which account for about one half of the school district's revenue.

Missed Target
While Dr. Hull flayed city officials for "sticking their noses in school business," the HERALD at no time quoted city employes in the original story.

The story merely explained where the tax dollar went, and was based on figures compiled by the HERALD from city, school, and county sources.

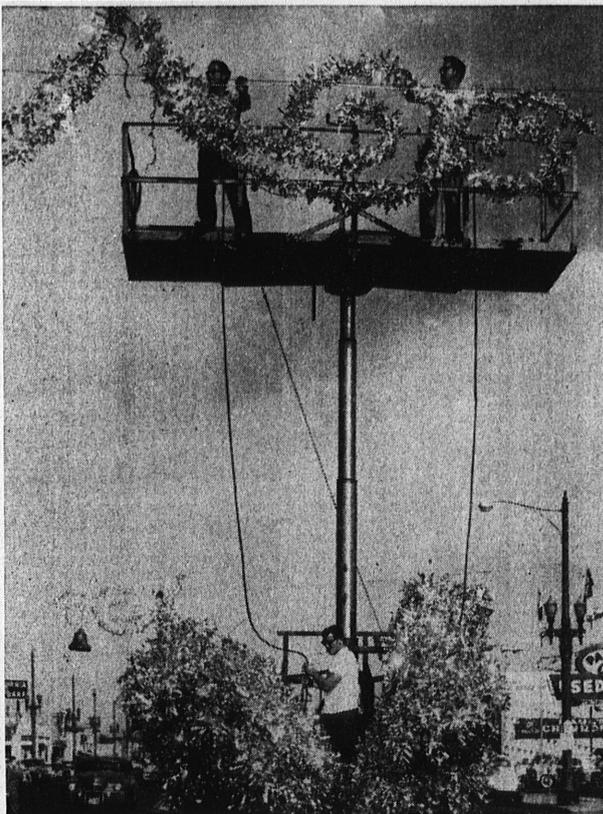
Additional stories on the taxes paid by Torrance taxpayers are in preparation by HERALD staffers and will be published in future editions.

Buy Land for Riviera Club

Land has been purchased on Pacific Coast Hwy. by the Hollywood Riviera Sportsmen's Club for a clubhouse.

The land, which is adjacent to the South Bay Community Christian School, will be the site of a 40 by 120 foot concrete block building.

Announcement of the purchase came from A. G. Koester, president of the Sportsmen's Club.



READY FOR HOLIDAYS . . . Crews yesterday began installing Christmas decorations on the downtown streets, official signal that the holiday season is here. Special events at Santa Land in El Prado Park and elsewhere in the downtown area are planned during the coming shopping season. (Herald Photo)

New Mothers' Class Starts

Although the second session of the new series of expectant mothers' classes is scheduled for Thursday, prospective mothers may still register, Dr. B. A. Kogan, District Health Officer for the Torrance Health Center, 2300 Carson St., said.

The classes convene at 1 p.m. each Thursday. For this next session, the film, "Human Growth" has been booked by Miss Ann Snoddy, public health nurse-instructor. There is no registration fee as the course is a tax-supported service of Los Angeles County Health Department.

SOUTHWOOD RESIDENT SEEKING BUS SERVICE

A one-man campaign to get municipal bus service in the Southwood area was launched this week by Arnold Tracy, a PEX repairman for the Pacific Telephone Co., who lives at 5209 Carson St.

"We have thousands of residents here, many of them one-car families, who have no public transportation except along streets around the area," Tracy said.

Phone Hike Asked for Local Area

Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company has filed an amendment to its application for a telephone rate increase now pending before the California Public Utilities Commission. Unchanged is the 6.9 per cent rate of return sought by the company in its original application.

The amendment seeks to offset higher wage costs. Most telephone employes have been granted wage increases within the last five weeks and comparable offers have been made in bargaining with unions representing most of the remaining employees.

Monthly increases for residence customers would be 5 cents on four-party, suburban, and farmer line service; 10 cents on all two-party services, and 35 cents on one-party lines. The increase on business services would be a flat 35 cents per month. Over-all effect of the amendment would be to increase company revenues by about \$12,000,000 annually.

R. S. Pyle, local manager for Pacific Telephone, announced the amended application.

"The majority of our residence customers here would pay 10 cents or less additional per month for their service. For example, a customer with a two-party line would pay \$3.35 monthly instead of the present \$3.25, not including tax," he said.

A Penny for your Thoughts

With the Christmas season approaching, the Torrance HERALD's inquiring reporter was in an expansive mood when posing the following question:

"What would you do if you suddenly inherited a million dollars?"

Ray Cole, 5870 W. 93rd St., Los Angeles, advertising: "I'd sit and think about it. It seems so unlikely that it's hard to decide. Probably I'd pay off my car and take a trip back to England. My wife has never been there and that's where all my family was born."

Sandra Stephens, 1816 Apt. A Cabrillo Ave., student: "I don't know what I'd do. But I would save enough for my college education. Then I'd take a trip around the world. It's hard to decide."

Chester Robbins, 316 W. Griffith St., Gardena, U. S. Navy: "I'd put it to the best use of mankind. I believe money should be kept in circulation. It should keep revolving so there won't be inflation. Maybe I would go into business and provide jobs for lots of people."

Johnny Cook, Truman, Ark., cabinet refinisher: "If I had a million dollars, I'd buy a farm in Arkansas . . . about 200 to 300 acres and raise cotton, soy beans and corn. I'd also get a new car."

Charles Holt, Caraway, Ark., cabinet refinisher: "I'd buy me a farm too . . . but mine would be in the Ozarks where the hunting and fishing is good. Maybe we would take a trip around the world and let my wife travel."

Billie Cook, Truman, Ark., housewife: "If I had that much money I'd give a lot of it to the polio fund and other things like that. I'd buy my little boy a pony, see that my two children had a college education. I'd like to have a big ranch with lots of horses and I'd buy some pretty clothes."

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY DRIVE SET

Muscular Dystrophy Week—the drive for funds to increase medical research into the crippling and fatal disease—begins today.

In Torrance, city firemen will conduct a house-to-house campaign throughout the week to help secure these funds. To supplement these collections Muscular Dystrophy canisters have been placed in markets and places of business in the city. Contributions can also be mailed to or deposited at any of the following Torrance fire stations:

Headquarters — 1701 Crenshaw Blvd.
Station 2—3774 242nd St.
Station 3—3610 174th St.
Station 4—5205 Calle Mayor.
"In the Torrance area, there are 21 muscular dystrophy victims. To find a cure through medical research is their only hope, and that hope can only survive through the support of the people," said local drive chairman.



WIRES KEEP BUSY . . . Busy making plans for the Dec. 8 presentation of the "Messiah" are Leslie Sommerville, who will direct the Torrance presentation, and Dr. Gordon Bachlund, founder and director of presentations of Handel's famed oratorio throughout this area. Local presentation will be at the First Methodist Church at 4 p.m.



AREA THREATENED . . . Fire crews and police officers stand by while workmen rush to patch a ruptured gas main, broken during excavation for a pipe line at Torrance Blvd. and Crenshaw Friday afternoon. Alert action by city crews prevented fire in the potentially dangerous situation. (Herald Photo)